

From: tomkeyes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 1:34pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam,

I encourage you to settle the Microsoft lawsuits in the quickest way possible.

The current settlement being considered by several states and the Department of Justice seems to be the most efficient means of disposing of this suit.

I am an experienced small business user of computer products. I have used at least 10 different operating systems on different computer brands in the last 20 plus years.

Microsoft is the only company that delivered a continually improving mostly effective operating system during that time. Its continual inclusion in the operating system of tools developed by itself and third parties to solve certain problems has been an absolute boon to consumers.

You are faced with political contributions and legislative pressure to make life easier for certain competing firms. Complaints abound that access is not simple. You isolate on the inclusion of the browser. Why did you not initiate action when the various fonts were included in the operating system? The use of third party fonts, and bit maps was a real pain by the consumer. Today, I seldom think about them. They are part of the utility.

I never used a browser until it became part of the system. Then the browser helped me, the consumer. Now, at the instance of businesses that could not maintain a lead over a utility that Microsoft made part of the system, you are interfering in areas of technical development that is beneficial to the consumer, and to the economy.

I have much more I can say in support of settlement being considered. Like, why did you not help when we consumers were faced with the fraudulent sales of systems that promised "we can do that" when they could not. I was once told a system could perform some simple accounting functions. It could not even line up the decimal points. I asked government organizations for help. I was told that I should have performed better due diligence, and that it was a contract problem. Now that we have a system that works, you want to limit it. From a consumers perspective, you have picked the wrong target. You should have gone after the various UNIX developers for failing to maintain a uniform system when fragmentation kept consumer prices higher and increased costs of transferring data from system to system. Instead, you go after a working system that continually decreases consumer costs. Nuts!!

I told the MN Attorney General that I would organize voters against him in future elections when he joined the suit. I did. He lost.

I thought Gore was part of the decision to proceed with the suit, so I organized as many votes against him as I could.

I will continue to organize the few voters I know against those that continue to pursue this Microsoft suit until the economic decisions are back into the hands of the consumer economists. We know that a continually improving product at a continually lower price is important. Some folks do not seem to understand that.

Settle the suit.

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